

Message

From: Delgado, Paige [Delgado.Paige@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/24/2019 12:29:40 PM
To: R6 Daily Ops [R6_Daily_Ops@epa.gov]
Subject: R6 Daily Ops Report (3/22/2019) -No New Significant Events; Update - ITC Tank Fire, Deer Park, Harris Co., Texas

R6 Daily Ops Status Report

Current Status(8:27 AM EST on 3/24/2019)

Report Activities(3/23/2019 to 3/23/2019)

Personnel	
R1:	Bernier
Tel Duty:	P Delgado

Outposted OSC's

Houston, TX	Zehner	
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Available OSC's

A Adams	Bernier	E Delgado
Enders	Fisher	Guidry
Hayes	Loesel	Martin
Mason	McAteer	Moore
P Adams	P Delgado	Patel
Robertson	Rouse	

Unavailable OSC's

Brescia	Fife
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Spill Notifications

					Total Spills: 6
State	Oil	Haz	Rad	Other	
AR		0	0	0	0
LA		1	0	0	0
NM		0	0	0	0
OK		0	0	0	0
TX		3	2	0	0

Regional Spot Reports

Date:	3/23/2019	Watch Officer:	Paige Delgado	Media Interest:	
Event Title:	Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) Fire				

Overview: Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) Fire Morning Update
Deer Park, Texas
March 22, 2019 1200 – March 23, 2019 0400

- EPA continues to participate in Unified Command with TCEQ, Harris County Pollution Control Services, and ITC.
- A partial breach of the tank farm containment wall on the northeast side near Tank 80-7 occurred at approximately 12:00 pm on March 22, 2019, to the ditched area and into Tucker Bayou. Additional boom has been placed along the ditch leading to Tucker Bayou, Tucker Bayou, and Buffalo Bayou. The Responsible Party's contractor has rebuilt the containment wall using clay material, but will continue to improve it during the day.
- At approximately 3:40 pm on March 22, 2019, three tanks reignited. The fire spread from the containment area through the breached containment wall into the ditch on Tidal Road. Foam was applied to the tanks and the ditch to fight the fire. A shelter in place recommendation was in effect for industrial neighbors, the Battleship Texas and Monument State Park. There was no shelter in place for the city of Deer Park.
- During and after the fire and the breach of the secondary containment, several readings of benzene above 1.0 ppm were detected (highest was 16.5 near National Tank Services) by the various entities conducting air monitoring through the afternoon and night time. These readings were located along the ship channel, Channelview.
- Foam continues to be applied to the secondary containment and tanks to reduce emissions and reignition of hot spots. At 3:00 am, approximately 145 totes (250 gal each) of foam were remaining. Approximately 200 additional totes are in route and will be arriving throughout the day.
- ITC will again attempt to start pumping product out of tank 80-7 (pyrolysis gasoline) to an empty tank within another tank farm.
- For safety purposes, there is no remediation actions taking place on the ship channel at night, but operations continued at night in the ditch area.
- As of 12:00 am on March 23, 2019, the RP had laid approximately 8,500 feet of boom in Tucker Bayou and areas along Buffalo Bayou. Another 600 feet will be deployed early on March 23. Booming has been placed around sensitive marsh areas, the battleship, and other sensitive areas of concerns. Currently, they have about 5,000 feet of additional boom.
- EPA conducted water sampling on March 22, 2019, in two locations in the drainage ditch feeding into Tucker Bayou and up by the Battleground park area. Samples will be analyzed for Chemical Oxygen Demand, VOCs, SVOCs, and oil/grease. Sampling was suspended after the breach in containment wall due to safety concerns from the containment breach.
- The Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT) aircraft found detections of acetone, butadiene, isobutylene, 1-butene, and isoprene. ASPECT found exceedances of the Texas comparison values on the afternoon of March 22, 2019. ASPECT has conducted a screening level assessment to evaluate the unreported or undetected releases of hazardous materials or contaminants at the Intercontinental Terminal Company (ITC) in Deer Park, Texas. The screening level results from ASPECT were compared to the ASPECT list of Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values (AMCVs) and found exceedances of the short-term AMCVs for butadiene (1.7 ppm) and isoprene (0.02 ppm).
- The ASPECT aircraft is undergoing maintenance and is expected to be ready for operation at approximately 12:00 pm on March 23, 2019.
- EPA conducted air sampling using the Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) from March 22, 2019 (12:00 pm) to March 23, 2019 (4:00 am). The TAGA analyzed the air samples for benzene, toluene and xylene. The TAGA air sampling results were compared to compared to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values

(AMCVs) and found no exceedances of the short-term AMCVs for toluene and xylene. The TAGA air sampling results found exceedances of the short-term AMCV for benzene. These exceedances of the short-term AMCV for benzene partially correspond to the ITC site and have been shared with unified command and local officials.

- EPA conducted handheld air monitoring from March 22, 2019 (12:00 pm) to March 23, 2019 (4:00 am) at 50 locations located in residential areas north of the ship channel as the wind was from the south/south-east. Results were reported above the detection limit at five locations for total volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and five locations for benzene. Benzene was detected at two of these locations above the short-term AMCVs for benzene (0.18 ppm). EPA will conduct additional air monitoring and deploy the Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) to determine if the short-term AMCV for benzene continues to be exceeded.
- CTEH continued air monitoring and from March 21, 2019 12:30 pm to March 22, 2019 12:00 am, there were 344 VOC readings and 133 benzene readings (with 2 detections above 1.0 ppm)
- Rapid Assessment Team (RAT) activities were cancelled on March 22, 2019 due to safety concerns after the containment breach.
- EPA continues to participate in the daily press conferences held at the ICP.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions:							
EPA Actions:							
Notes:							
HQ Spot Reports							
Date:	3/23/2019	Watch Officer:	Jonathan Pettit	Media Interest:	High	HQ Status:	Open
Event Title:	EOC Spot Report Update #7: Region 6, Fire at International Terminal Corporation, Deer Park, TX (NRC# 1240304 and 1240312)						
Overview:	<p>On March 17th, Region 6 was notified about the fire at International Terminal Corporation (ITC) in Deer Park, Houston TX. A tank containing naptha caught fire. The total capacity of the tank is 80,000 barrels. The PRP initiated sampling of all brands of foam used during the response to determine if any contained PFOS and PFOA. Water sampling operations are ongoing with additional sampling for PFOS and PFOA and other contaminants.</p> <p>At approximately 3:40 pm on March 22, 2019 three tanks reignited. The fire spread from the containment area through the breached containment wall into the ditch on Tidal Road. A shelter in place recommendation was in effect for industrial neighbors, the Battleship Texas and Monument State Park. There was no shelter in place for the city of Deer Park.</p> <p>The TAGA air sampling found exceedances of the short-term AMCV for benzene.</p>						
State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions:	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is on scene. The PRP has contracted with an incident management team to help manage the incident. The contractor mobilized additional resources (skimmers, vac trucks, and frac tanks) to conduct cleanup operations at the Tucker and Buffalo Bayou. USCG personnel are participating in Unified Command, focusing on water operations in Tucker Bayou (booming and skimming of foam).						
EPA Actions:	<p>EPA and START mobilized on March 17th and entered Unified Command with TCEQ, Harris County Pollution Control Services Department (HCPCS), and ITC. There are currently 3 Region 6 OSCs on scene.</p> <p>ASPECT continues to provide airborne sensing. EPA</p>						

conducted handheld air monitoring efforts are on-going. The Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) bus is on site.

EPA opened a Federal Project Number for \$50,000 to fund assistance received from NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator.

Notes: <https://abc13.com/cleanup-continues-after-fire-break-out-itc-facility/5212074/>

Exercises

No exercises for this reporting period